

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /062 W

----- 040300

O R 091111Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8472

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6162

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, PO, EGEN

SUBJECT: SOARES POSTPONES SPEECH

REF: LISBON 6070 (NOTAL) (DTG 041325Z SEP 76

1. PRIME MINISTER SOARES'S TELEVISED ADDRESS TO THE NATION, SCHEDULED FOR THE EVENING OF SEPT 8, HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR 24 HOURS. INSTEAD OF THE EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY MEASURES, A BRIEF STATEMENT WAS MADE AT AIR TIME THAT THE SPEECH WAS BEING POSTPONED DUE TO A "SLIGHT INDISPOSITION" ON THE PART OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

2. COMMENT: SOARES'S INDISPOSITION APPEARS TO BE POLITICAL RATHER THAN MEDICAL. DEFENSE MINISTER MIGUEL TOLD THE

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AMBASSADOR AT LUNCH SEPT 8 THAT PRESIDENT EANES WAS

PRESSING THE GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON URGENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.
MIGUEL SAID THAT EANES'S OPORTO SPEECH WAS DESIGNED TO PUT
PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT TO GET MOVING. HE SAID
EANES HAD SUMMONED SOARES AT 2 P.M. SEPT 8 TO GIVE HIM
THE SAME MESSAGE IN PRIVATE. PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR
LUIS MARTINS, IN CONVERSATION WITH POLITICAL COUNSELOR
SAME DAY, CONFIRMED EANES'S IMPATIENCE.
THE BEST EXPLANATION FOR THE DELAY SEEMS TO BE DIFFICULTIES
IN HAMMERING OUT THE FINAL TEXT WITH THE
PRESIDENT AND SOME OF THE SOCIALIST ECONOMIC TEAM
PUSHING FOR TOUGH MEASURES WHILE OTHER PS ADVISORS
POINTING TO POTENTIAL POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES IF HARSH
MEASURES ARE ADOPTED NOW.
CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

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